

**privacy**['pr(a)ɪvəsi] *n*

1. **уединение; уединённость**  
to disturb /to invade/ smb.'s privacy - нарушить чьё-л. уединение  
to live in absolute privacy - жить в полном уединении /одиночестве/  
privacy was impossible - было невозможно побыть одному  
there is no privacy here - здесь всё у всех на виду
2. **тайна, секретность**  
in the privacy of one's thoughts - в тайниках /в глубине/ души /сердца/  
I tell you this in strict privacy - я говорю вам это строго по секрету /конфиденциально
3. **личное, частное дело**  
this is an invasion on my privacy - это вмешательство в мою личную /частную/ жизнь
4. **редк.** уединённый уголок

**privacy**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**priv-acy** [privacy privacies] *BrE* ['prɪvəs] <sup>u</sup> *NAmE* ['praɪvəs] <sup>u</sup> **noun****uncountable**

1. the state of being alone and not watched or disturbed by other people
  - She was longing for some peace and privacy.
  - I value my privacy.
  - He read the letter later **in the privacy of** his own room.
2. the state of being free from the attention of the public
  - freedom of speech and the **right to privacy**
  - She complained that the photographs were an invasion of her privacy.

Culture:**privacy**

The British value their **privacy** (= having a part of their life that is not known to other people) and believe that everyone has a right to a **private life**. Many British people like to 'keep themselves to themselves' and do not discuss their private affairs. Things people like to keep private vary but may include personal relationships, family problems, how much they earn, their health, their political opinions, and sometimes what they do in their free time. It is considered rude to ask somebody about their private life, even if you know them well.

In the US the **Constitution** protects people's right to privacy. A police officer has no power to stop people and ask them what they are doing unless they have committed a crime. Information about people can be shown to others only under special circumstances, and usually only with their permission. When newspapers print details about the family life of a politician or film actor they are often criticized for **invasion of privacy**. On the other hand, actors and politicians tell the press about their family life for publicity reasons, and ordinary Americans appear on television talk shows where they discuss their bad marriages, health problems and how they cannot control their children. The **apparent contradiction** in attitudes may be explained by the fact that Americans believe strongly in the right to privacy, but as long as that right is respected, they are happy to give it up. They believe it is better to be open and honest than to have secrets. The British may be less willing than Americans to talk about their own lives but they have an equally strong desire to know about the private lives of famous people. There is a constant argument, for instance, about the extent to which the media should be allowed to report the private lives of members of the **royal family**.

Americans don't tell the world everything about their lives. Money and sex are rarely discussed. Husbands and wives usually know how much each other earns, but other family members do not. People may say how much they paid for something, especially if the price was low, but asking somebody else how much they paid is acceptable only for small things, not a house or a car. In general people are happier offering information than being asked for it.

Being given advice can also disturb an American's sense of privacy because it seems to suggest that somebody else can solve your problem better than you can yourself. When offering advice, people use indirect language, and instead of saying, 'You should do this,' they may say, 'I tried doing this, and it worked for me'.

Thesaurus:**privacy** **noun** **U** (approving)

- She longed for peace and privacy.

approving **solitude** • • **seclusion** • |disapproving **loneliness** • • **isolation** •

**in** privacy/solitude/seclusion/isolation

**experience** /**suffer/feel** loneliness/isolation

**need/enjoy** privacy/solitude

Example Bank:

- I hope I'm not intruding on your privacy.
- I want to be left in privacy.
- I was able to say goodbye to him in relative privacy.
- She longed to be in the privacy of her own room.
- These phone calls are a gross invasion of privacy.
- We need to have access to health records while protecting patient privacy.
- privacy from prying eyes

**privacy**

**priv** **a** **cy** /'prɪvəsi, 'praɪ- \$ 'praɪ-/ BrE " AmE " noun [uncountable]

[Word Family: noun: ↑privacy, ↑private, ↑privatization; verb: ↑privatize; advert: ↑privately; adjective: ↑private]

1. the state of being able to be alone, and not seen or heard by other people:

With seven people squashed in one house, you don't get much privacy.

2. the state of being free from public attention:

each individual's right to privacy

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### COLLOCATIONS (for Meanings 1 & 2)

#### ■ verbs

- **protect somebody's privacy** Names have been changed to protect the privacy of those involved.
- **ensure privacy** He had locked the door to ensure privacy.
- **invade somebody's privacy** (=try to find out personal things about them, or disturb them when they want to be alone) She complained that the magazine had invaded her privacy by printing the photos.
- **respect somebody's privacy** (=not invade their privacy) Show teenagers that you respect their privacy by knocking on their bedroom door.

#### ■ phrases

- **an invasion of privacy** Random drug testing of employees is an invasion of privacy.
- **somebody's right to privacy** Children feel more comfortable when parents respect their right to privacy.

#### ■ adjectives

- **personal privacy** Some patients do not want counselling because they feel it interferes with their personal privacy.
- **complete/total privacy** The lawn was surrounded by tall bushes, giving complete privacy.

**privacy**

Frequency Pack

12500 **5922**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2680**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k** PRIVACY <sup>10479</sup>

privacy <sup>10479</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

5496 **3860**<sup>10470</sup> nn1

8 **277725**<sup>9</sup> nnu